The city of Raleigh is planning a greenway along the south shore of the lake; however, the EIS indicates that the trail should not be paved in sensitive portions of the natural area. Although NC NHP and some factions of N.C. State University have been involved in the protection of the natural area, the site should be considered in jeopardy, especially the upland ridge on the west end of the site.

This natural area has had several impacts since the late 1980s. Hurricane Fran in 1996 blew down a number of mature trees along the lake shore, in addition to causing the dam to burst, emptying the lake (since re-filled). A number of off-road vehicle trails now crisscross the natural area. The hurricane, and perhaps the off-road vehicle trails, has opened up the site a bit and allowed the exotic shrub silverberry (*Elaeagnus umbellata*) to expand into the area. This shrub needs to be cut down and removed to keep the flora from being impacted. These impacts, especially the silverberry invasion, have led to a down-grading of the significance to the County level (from Regional).

NATURAL COMMUNITIES: Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest (Slope variant), Dry-Mesic Oak-Hickory Forest

RARE PLANTS: Watch List – showy scullcap (*Scutellaria serrata*)

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